

Looks at Labor

Automated Routing Bring on Strike Postal Workers

By Patrick Ward

Of the CW Staff

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Management says it has fear. Labor calls it the effect of robotization.

For the reason, computers could be the next U.S. Postal Service strike. It all is the Letter Carrier Route on Systems that the Postal Service is testing in Kokomo, Ind. and Portland, Ore. There, two-man letter carriers with measuring wheels have plotted the distance from the side of the house, the number of steps to the lay of the land.

Maps also figure in street distances and maps and typical volumes of

Postal Service keypunches the data in a computer system lists the volume of city blocks, which the carriers can combine in a computer work value.

Opposition to the system centers on refusal of management to recognize

IBM Readies Action on Leasing Plans May Hike TLPs Up to 5% Yearly

ARMONK, N.Y. — IBM is now offering long-term leasing customers only limited one-year rate protection on its line of 370 virtual machines.

In a recent letter to Term Lease Plan (TLP) customers, the firm said it is reserving the right to raise rental prices under such four-year contracts by 5% after the first year, another 5% after the second year and a further 5% the final year of the contract. TLP customers must receive 90-day notification of rental increases.

In addition, IBM said purchase price protection will be limited to one year and after that it reserves the right to raise the purchase price a maximum 5% yearly.

The new regulations are in effect for any users who signed contracts under the TLP after Jan. 8. The 5% maximum increases will be levied only after IBM has announced general price increases, a spokesman said.

Equipment included under the plan are the 370/115, 370/125, 370/135, 370/145, 370/158 and the 370/168,

along with their multisystem units, channels, consoles and power and coolant units.

The rates under the TLP are identical to the rates under the Monthly Availability Charge, but the user does not have to pay overtime charges if the system is used for more than one shift a day.

Applies to Monthly Rental

Under the new rate structure, the 5% maximum rate rise in each of the second, third and fourth years would apply to the basic monthly rental. A unit that cost \$100/mo under the TLP in the first year, therefore, could be raised to a maximum of \$105/mo the second year, \$110/mo the third year and \$115/mo the fourth year of the plan.

Similarly, the raises in the purchase price would be limited to 5% per year on the original purchase price and would not be cumulative, since the 5% price increase would always be applied to the original contract price.

The TLP changes do not alter the method by which the user garners purchase option credits. Under this option 50% of the customer's rental payments can be applied as credit toward the purchase of the equipment. A maximum of 50% of the purchase price can be accrued in this manner.

Delay Urged on SCDP Proposal Requiring State DP Licensing

By Patrick Ward

CHICAGO — Two professional societies

concerned with certification have stated that proposals to license DPs are "pre-

Both the DPMA and SCDP are ICCP members. Swearingen said the CDP exam is oriented toward the middle and upper levels of DP management. The test concentrates

on the management of the computer system. The exam is designed to test the candidate's ability to manage the computer system.

Plans Penalties

By E. I.

ARMONK, N.Y. — IBM is now offering long-term leasing customers only limited one-year rate protection on its line of 370 virtual machines.

In the Telex Christensen original enforcing cancellation of term contracts the firm from contracts with cautions for a three And even though Christensen would voluntary payments while

However, with overturned by Appeals [CW, F] it would take get the Christensen overturned.

IBM has to ap have the order appeals court d lower court cou legal sources s none has been s

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The equipment includes all ca devices that are IBM Fixed-Term Le while IBM